

The first fall of snow for the season which was found covering the ground yesterday morning, sent a shiver through the nerves of thousands which was not more from the cold than from the fact that it was the first of the season. It meant winter and not cold enough in the bin nor four in the barrel. Snow is a beautiful thing when seen from plate-glass windows of warm and cozy houses whose occupants have no fear of the cold and no dread of the wolf. But when the hollow eyes of poverty behold it from rickety and wind-swept shanties, knowing it for an enemy and possible destroyer, it has only the fascination of the basilisk. The hearts of all who can be practically kind to the needy should be kept very warm as the coming days pass in slow and dreary procession.

Gladstone said in a speech at the birthday dinner of the Prince of Wales, referring to the Ashmolean, that he "could not enjoy standing in safety on the shore while others were buffeted by the storm." Well, the sentiment does him honor, but the great nation he represents would be the better off if it would abandon her old practice of making war on the defenceless for the meagre purposes of aggrandizement and profit. Her history is full of that sort of thing. England was far from territory and money vastly exceed in rapacity and number all her struggles for the defence of her legitimate rights or in aid of the weaker states. Nothing can be more ridiculous than the assumption made by Sir Garnet Wolsey in his speech to the anti-slavery "Kings," that they were "allies" of the Queen and that Her Majesty was anxious to assist them because they were oppressed by neighboring tribes. In that way the warm Spring Indians were the allies of the United States, though everybody knows they were but tools to help subjugate Capt. Jack. "Lord, how the world is given to lying!"

Ex-President Johnson, in a letter to the Washington Chronicle, contradicts the position of Judge Holt in relation to the petition alleged by the latter to have been submitted to Johnson, then President, from the Commission which tried the murderers of Mr. Lincoln. The petition referred to asked for the commutation of the death sentence of Mrs. Surratt to imprisonment for life, on account of her age and sex. Holt says he presented the document to Johnson; Johnson says he did not. Nothing is involved in this question now except the reputation for veracity of those gentlemen respectively. Yet there is a shade of singularity about the fact that Holt has allowed so many years to pass before attempting to clear himself from charges made almost immediately after the execution. If there was such a petition he should have submitted it to the Executive for his action. If he took the responsibility of suppressing it then he did more than any other man to put that woman to death; for a petition signed by five members of the United States Senate would have made a vital difference in the result. As to the basis of that request we think now as we thought then, that there is no sex in crime, and that if it is ever right to hang anybody it is equally so to hang a woman.

The Legislature.
There is one peculiarly grave feature of this fall's election. The overwhelming preponderance of action in the legislature has uniformly been the occasion of heavy plundering. This year we have a very close legislature, the Assembly containing sixty-nine Republicans and fifty-nine Democrats, while in the Senate the Republicans have only two majority if Mr. McKim is re-elected, while there is a tie if Abbott proves to be the man. This state of affairs will be quite sure, contribute to the purity of legislation at the state capital. When the two parties are set to close watching each other the chances are that each will be very careful lest it take any action in which its opponents may catch them and pillory them at the next election. This year's result is a very decided hint to the Republican members that a numerical preponderance, no matter how great, can be wasted about as fast as Wednesday's early snow.

A Hint to Country Merchants.
H. R. Claiborne & Co., being short of funds and with a heavy stock of goods on hand, have advertised in the dailies that they would sell all their stock at a large reduction. Their example is followed by the other great houses, and the result vindicates the wisdom of the movement, as their goods are going into the country in immense quantities, while money is flowing into their tills at an unprecedented rate. Creditors of the merchants, through their warehouses, and it would seem as if country merchants had heavy rolls of greenbacks stowed away in the very topmost toe of their longest stockings. But the country merchants would do well to follow the example set by the city wholesale dealers. They have also stocks on their shelves, and they should sell them quickly and at a reduction to realize money to take part in buying these fresh goods at lower values. And to get rid of their merchandise they must advertise freely and heavily. Now's the time to get your stock into money and lay in new goods at the new cheap rates.

The Golden Rule.
If the treaty of Washington, the final adoption of which was had after a world of trouble and talk, means anything comprehensible by the common mind, it means this: that neither nation, being parties to the high contract, should meddle with any rebellion which might arise within the boundaries of the other. Both nations agreed not to lay heavy hands on the affairs of the other, and not to rush precipitately into the recognition of belligerent rights on the part of revolutionists who might be temporarily overthrowing either side. Of course the treaty of Washington does not literally bind Great Britain as to her conduct towards the republic of Spain nor the United States as to their conduct towards the same power. But the spirit of the treaty binds both parties to act towards all other nations as they have agreed that it is right to do towards each other. Then what makes England connive at the Cuban insurrection and the United States at the Cuban revolt? If it be answered on the part that the very nature of our government and the revolution in which it originated constitute a perpetual obligation to help the struggling cause of human liberty everywhere, then the answer is in any way not to do this. In other words, if we understand it to be our duty to enact the part of an unrestricted missionary and an unfettered champion of political freedom everywhere on the globe, we should in that case courageously take the chances of coming into constant entanglements and broils with those nations whose interests we should necessarily interfere with. But if, on the other hand, we consider precisely the opposite of the rest—and that means precisely the abolition of all principles of international comity and law. Great Britain has no business in Spain and we have none in Cuba. Should it be asked, Who is to promote freedom? the answer is, Freedom is promoting itself. An-

The City Banks Return to Reason.
The panic has taught the city financiers some reason, although the price of their tuition impresses us as fearfully high when we contemplate the waste and ruin of the past month. Railroad kings have been shaken on their thrones, colossal mercantile houses have tumbled or just saved themselves on the verge of the financial precipice, while thousands of laboring men are put out of employment. This is the cost of the lesson, and it is to be hoped that those who have learned it will be engrained upon the memory of all concerned.

To stop paying interest on deposits subject to draft at sight is the simplest dictate of common sense. The system causes an unnatural accumulation of deposits, and when a panic broke upon the country the difficulty of any bank banker paying any considerable proportion of their deposits on demand was increased tenfold. The amount of these deposits was even more enormous than even the best informed supposed, the twelve large banks mostly engaged in the business holding \$111,585,000, of which \$58,916,000 was called for in an incredibly short time. These deposits being almost wholly payable on demand, and bred the very panics which caused them to flow out of the bank vaults in greatest volume just when the banks are least able to pay them.

To cease certifying checks except as representing money actually on deposit, is only the application of common sense to the business of banking. The practice has been the inciting cause of at least as given the available means of most of the speculation that has cursed Wall street for many years. Under it the banks have risked the larger portion of their means for no profit to themselves. The practice was dangerous to the banks, to the financial world, and even to the lockers themselves.

As regards the discrimination against country bank checks we cannot clearly see the reasons. The checks on country banks are in the main commercial checks, representing legitimate business, but a slight proportion of them being for stock operations. Country bank checks almost wholly represent legitimate deposits, and as a whole they are probably as safe as anything the city banks touch. Discrimination against them will unnecessarily restrict the business of the country, while it will add but slightly to the security of the city banks.

CURRENT TOPICS.

An exchange says that "one of William Clinton Bryan's daily habits is to have the Evening Post read to him after dinner, to see if he approves its contents."

"Everybody will feel sad to learn that the Intellectual Department chaps of the Herald are waiting away in the West business. The strain is dreadful, and they are getting almost as thin as their wit."

"If there's one set more than another that the Ohio Republicans are mad at it is the prohibitionists, who accused their candidate of almost everything in the liquor way."

"It is worthy of note that a notable physician writes to a New York paper that the noise of the streets is killing people. This is a direct assertion that people's nerves can be put to death by the noise of the city."

"It is generally considered that the Duke d'Annamite is conducting Bazarine's trial with great fairness. He requires the prosecution to prove their case, instead of making the accused prove his innocence."

"The World calls Joseph Arch's attention to the cheap and uncultivated lands in the South and West which are to be had on shares. What a blessing it would be to the country should these lands so cheaply handled heretofore, come under the care of the skilled farmers of England."

"The Times don't want legislatures to be too niggardly in appropriations for needed public works. This is sensible talk, as there will be many in want of employment, and it is better to let them earn money than to give alms."

"Secretary Richardson has certainly achieved distinction as the most successful financier of the age. He has succeeded in putting \$4,000 in silver coin on the market. This has been done so quietly that not a single money market in the world has been disturbed."

"It seems to be the general impression that the late President's assassination was too long a story for the nation to feel. His resignation seems imperatively demanded by the business interests of the country. It certainly is dangerous in times of panic to have a financial idiot in the Treasury."

"Washington dispatches state that the young German who called to collect fifteen millions from the President 'was put on the streets of the nation' being evidently a lunatic." How long has the monumental city been used for this purpose?—New York Commercial.

"The snarling stockholders have at last shut down on that idiotic adjective-hurrier, Mr. P. Donan, 'editor' of the Lexington, Mo., Caucasian. That cheerful adjectival expression was the last straw. 'From this time forth,' says the now happily muzzled Donan, 'the Caucasian will be, in some respects, a changed paper. Its rougher features will be laid aside; its tone will be somewhat moderated. Its long-eared Pegasus will be reined in with a vigorous curb-bit. It will be as chaste as the icicle that hangs, curled from purest snow, on Diana's temple for a pit-curl. All the imaginary indecencies which sensitive old-faceries have snuffed in its columns will be forever banished.'"

"New York has one model bank president. His cashier stole \$20,000 outright and absconded with a woman. But the worthy president was so affected by the transaction and so moved by human tenderness that he was unwilling to say a word about it lest he should wound the feelings of the thief. Such a gush of genuine sympathy in such a place and from such a bosom is entirely unprecedented, and for the sake of honesty and justice we hope the President of Security Bank will have no imitators. A man who is given to gushing in that way should quit banking and go into the soothing syrup business."

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

"Calico is higher in England than for years before."

"There is a farm near Concord, New Hampshire, which has been mortgaged thirty-two times."

"The abolition of peonage and the separation of Church and State were celebrated with rejoicings throughout Mexico."

"Only one carriage and four mourners followed the remains of the late Laura Keane to their burial at Montclair, New Jersey last Thursday."

"Jeff Davis is about to sail for Europe on account of his health, leaving his family at Shelbyville, Ky."

FOREIGN.

GREAT BRITAIN.

A Riot in Kilkenny.
LONDON, Nov. 12.—A. M.—There was a serious riot last night at a meeting in favor of home rule in Kilkenny. The mob stoned the police, who charged upon them and made several arrests.

COL. STOFFEL TO BE TRIED.
A special despatch from Paris to the Daily Telegraph says Col. Stoffel will be tried by a civil court in Versailles on a charge of using contemptuous language towards the government prosecutors in the Bazarine court-martial.

FRANCE.

Proceedings of the Assembly.

PARIS, Nov. 12.—In the Assembly to-day a motion was offered by the government postponing debate upon M. Leon Say's interpellation regarding the failure to order elections to fill the vacancies in the Assembly until the fall following that upon which the vote is taken upon the prolongation of President MacMahon's powers. After a heated debate the motion was adopted.

The committee on the prolongation of the powers of the present government, headed by M. de Remusat, to-day had an interview with MacMahon. The latter stated that he had nothing to say modifying in any way the language of his message to the Assembly. He requested them to hasten their labors in the best interests of the country. He said questions relating to the discussion of the constitutional bills belonged solely to the Assembly, though he acknowledged that the adoption of the bills would give stability to the government and even to the lockers themselves.

PARIS, Nov. 12.—The committee on prolongation has adopted the proposal of Casimir Perier that a law prolonging the powers of President MacMahon for five years beyond the duration of the present Assembly shall become part of the constitutional bills that are to be voted on.

CUBAN MURDERS.

FORTY-EIGHT PERSONS BUTCHERED.

Our Navy Preparing for Action.
HAVANA, Nov. 12.—On the 7th inst. the captain and thirty-five of the crew of the steamer Virginia were executed at Santiago de Cuba, and on the next day, the 8th, twelve more of the Cuban volunteers on the vessel were shot. Among the latter was French Alfaro.

A MILLION DOLLARS FOR A LIFE.

HAVANA, Nov. 12.—The dispatch from Santiago de Cuba announcing the execution of Captain Fry and crew of the Virginia and the death of the Cuban patriots, soldiers of the Franchi Alfaro, who was among the latter number, offered the Spanish authorities a million dollars if they would spare his life. The Spaniards say that Alfaro came to assume the Presidency of the so-called Cuban Republic.

PASSENGERS ON A NEW YORK STEAMER ARRESTED.

Several passengers, both men and women, by the steamer City of New York, from New York, Nov. 6th, which arrived here yesterday, were arrested by the Spanish authorities on landing. It is reported that they are accused of complicity with the insurgents.

THE NAVY PREPARING FOR ACTION.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 12.—Orders have been received at the Navy Yard here to fit out the monitor Manhattan for sea by Friday next. A large force of workmen have been employed, and it is understood that other monitors at League Island are to be made ready for sea on the same day.

NEW YORK, Nov. 12.—Orders have been received at the Brooklyn Navy Yard to get the sloops of war Kearsage and Junia ready for sea at once. At noon to-day, under equally pressing orders, the torpedo boat Admiral Porter was launched and will be made ready for active operations in a few days. All the officers about the yard are greatly excited over the news from Havana.

THE VOICE OF CUBA ON THE AFFAIR.

HAVANA, Nov. 12.—The Voice de Cuba to-day says editorially that it is as humane as any body more than many who make ostentatious professions of philanthropy; but it cannot do less than approve of the energy displayed toward all rebels, and particularly toward those whom the filth-fluttering steamer Virginia brought to make more bloody war in Cuba. The court-martial for the trial of these captives in the Virginia is still in session, working with all possible dispatch.

Among the crew and disguised as firemen were Ignacio Alfaro, Bosa Arca, Varona Castellanos, Pine da Mado, Botel and other persons of importance. Captain Joseph Fry was manifestly aware of the object of the expedition, and the nature of the mission, which he was tempted to take charge of by the large sum offered him, thinking that there were ninety-nine chances in a hundred of his landing in safety. It is thought that this will be the final effort of the insurrectionists. The captain and crew were shot by a guard of Spanish troops in the morning. Twelve of the insurgents were shot in front of the slaughter house wall yesterday morning.

At half-past eleven o'clock Manzanillo was attacked from every direction by the insurgents in considerable force. The fighting lasted until 3 o'clock P. M., when the rebels were driven off.

OUR GOVERNMENT TALKING BUSINESS.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—The Mahopae and Madison are to be put in commission and to which officers are already assigned, are fourth-class screw vessels, iron-clad, of 550 tons burden, and carrying each two guns. These vessels will join the north Atlantic squadron. The vessels of the navy have been so much reduced in number that it has been found somewhat difficult to promptly re-enforce our squadrons in case of emergency, but in the course of a few days all that can be made available will be sent to Cuban waters, in accordance with the determination of the Cabinet meeting yesterday. The government seems to be more earnest than heretofore in protecting the waters between the United States and Cuba from Spanish molestation. The Madrid government being unable to enforce its authority in Cuba that of the United States will be compelled to assert its power in all cases where the interests of citizens of this country and its own honor require decisive action. The President and all the members of his Cabinet are in accord on this subject.

JORDAN ON THE SITUATION.

NEW YORK, Nov. 12.—Gen. Thomas Jordan, prominent in Cuban affairs, to-day stated that Cubans regarded the Virginia matter as purely an American question, as the Virginia sailed from an English port and was legally cleared by an American consul.

A PETITION FROM NEGROES.

NEW YORK, Nov. 12.—The Chairman and secretary of the Cuban Anti-Slavery Society to-morrow carry to the President a petition signed by 600,000 colored men asking the concession of belligerent rights to the Cubans, whose success will ensure freedom to Cuban slaves, while a Spanish triumph will perpetuate slavery in the island.

THE TRIBUNE ON THE SITUATION.

The Tribune says editorially to-morrow: "The flag of the United States has been dishonored in Cuba and the government of Spain is powerless to prevent or to punish the repetition of such outrages. We are therefore forced to act, but the situation must not be made worse by rash or inconsiderate action."

The almost unanimous cry yesterday was for immediate granting of belligerent rights to the Cubans. Nothing could be more foolish or illogical. The seizure of the Virginia was unlawful precisely because we do not recognize a state of war between Spain and Cuba. The massacre at Santiago affords no additional reason for the recognition of the insurrection, and such recognition would do nothing toward ending the civil war. Our government, we hope, has already demanded full and immediate reparation and punishment of the leaders under whose orders the outrage has been accomplished. If, as we fear, the Spanish government cannot enforce this, we must in the future protect our flag and our citizens in Cuban waters. If there had been one or two ironclads at the harbor of Santiago to sustain the demand of the consular representatives it is not likely that the prisoners of the Virginia would have been shot in such haste."

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The Security Bank Defaulted.
NEW YORK, Nov. 12.—The officers of the Security Bank, it is stated, know the whereabouts of the absconding Cashier and say that the nearly completed thorough investigation fails to show that he took more than originally reported, \$25,000.

THE UNION TRUST COMPANY.

The work of reorganizing the Union Trust Company is progressing slowly and only half of the \$1,000,000 stock required has been subscribed, and the Commercial says it appears hardly possible Carleton could have performed so many cashing tricks in finance without a confederate director.

THE TWEED TRIAL.

After recess Assistant District Attorney Allen said that the prosecution had become possessed of facts tending to show that one of the jurors already sworn was unfit to serve and he asked that the challenge to favor in relation to that juror be re-opened. Judge Fuller objected, and the challenge was not sustained in taking testimony upon the fitness of the eighth juror, named Luby, the charge against him being that he had been in consultation with Tweed's friends. Judge Davis finally decided the conduct of the juror was surrounded by suspicion; that the public would not accept any verdict rendered with him on the jury, and Luby was accordingly discharged, only ten jurors remaining. The panel was exhausted without obtaining any more. The juryman and court then adjourned.

MISSIONARY MEETING.

The fifty-fifth annual meeting of the General Missionary Committee of the M. E. Church was held this morning. There were present Bishops James, Smith, Scott, and Andrews, Ames, Merritt, Wiley, Havens, Brown and Peck. There was also a full attendance from the mission districts. The meeting opened with devotional exercises, after which the Treasurer's report for the past year was read, showing receipts during that period \$967,233.49; expenditures \$925,169.93, leaving a balance of \$42,063.56, which amount will be entirely absorbed by outstanding letters of credit to foreign missionaries.

A LOVER'S TRAGEDY.

Murder and Suicide.
ST. LOUIS, Nov. 12.—A dispatch from California, Missouri, says Henry Roe shot and killed Miss Mollie Wallace near Bellaire, Cooper county, last Friday and then blew his brains out. Roe and Miss Wallace were engaged, but her parents refused their consent, whereupon Roe attempted suicide but was prevented. Next day he went to the residence of the young lady and committed the deed above stated. He left a note saying he could not live without the girl and resolved to kill her and himself so they might be together in the next world.

JAY COOKE & CO.

The Bankruptcy Proceedings Against Them.
PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 12.—The return of the order granted by Judge Cadwallader on Jay Cooke & Co. to show cause why they should not be adjudicated bankrupt was heard in court to-day. The proceedings took the form of a conversation between the Judge and counsel representing the petitioning creditors, which was also participated in by counsel for the defendants. The Judge said that in times of unusual financial distress the conduct of creditors towards debtors should be marked with forbearance and toleration. The order to show cause has not legally been served, and the Judge, under the circumstances, he could not present make the adjudication against them, but he would order an adjourned meeting two weeks hence and direct the publication of the order.

STILL ANOTHER DEFAULT.

A \$45,000 Bank Thief.
PROVIDENCE, R. I., Nov. 12.—Stephen P. Wardwell, Cashier of the Commercial National Bank, confesses to a delinquency of about \$45,000, and in connection is now going on by the Directors and Bank Examiner Mygatt, and indicates that the full amount of the embezzlement is stated, but accurate figures will be attainable to-morrow. The money was lost some years since in speculation. The Cashier's bond and private property will nearly reimburse the bank. Mr. Alexander Farnum has been elected Cashier pro tem.

A NOVEL CASE.

A Careless Switchman Wants to Commit Suicide.
ELIZABETH, N. J., Nov. 12.—Peter Smith, for many years switchman on the Pennsylvania Railroad line, led a wrong train into his switch to-day, and although no damage was done, he is charged with committing suicide. He is being closely watched.

THE ELECTION.

Hopkins and Platt Probably Elected.
ALBANY, Nov. 12.—The Evening Journal says from official returns received it is quite probable that Hopkins, Rep., for Comptroller, and Platt, Rep., for Lieutenant Governor, are elected. The election of Thompson, Rep., for Senator in the 23d District is also claimed by one majority.

MEMPHIS RECOVERED.

Not a Death from Yellow Fever.
MEMPHIS, Nov. 12.—For the first day since the second of September there was not a single death from yellow fever. The Howard Association to-day relieved all the members on duty except two and divided the city into two districts under charge of those two members. Alderman Cicilia was expelled from the Board for irregularities while acting as Mayor. The vote was unanimous.

THE WEATHER.

To-Day's Probabilities.
On Thursday for the Middle and Eastern States winds veering to Northwesterly, occasional snow and rain, with cold, cloudy weather.

COMMERCIAL REPORTS.

NEW YORK MARKET.

NEW YORK, Nov. 12.—FLOUR—Quiet and unchanged. Receipts 110,000 barrels. Sales 5,000 barrels at \$4.75 per barrel for superior State; \$5.00 for extra; \$5.25 for common to choice extra; \$5.50 for choice extra; \$5.75 for choice extra; \$6.00 for choice extra; \$6.25 for choice extra; \$6.50 for choice extra; \$6.75 for choice extra; \$7.00 for choice extra; \$7.25 for choice extra; \$7.50 for choice extra; \$7.75 for choice extra; \$8.00 for choice extra; \$8.25 for choice extra; \$8.50 for choice extra; \$8.75 for choice extra; \$9.00 for choice extra; \$9.25 for choice extra; \$9.50 for choice extra; \$9.75 for choice extra; \$10.00 for choice extra; \$10.25 for choice extra; \$10.50 for choice extra; \$10.75 for choice extra; \$11.00 for choice extra; \$11.25 for choice extra; \$11.50 for choice extra; \$11.75 for choice extra; \$12.00 for choice extra; \$12.25 for choice extra; \$12.50 for choice extra; \$12.75 for choice extra; \$13.00 for choice extra; \$13.25 for choice extra; \$13.50 for choice extra; \$13.75 for choice extra; \$14.00 for choice extra; 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